

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 /074 W
----- 064673 /20

R 200850Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4306
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 18600

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, JA
SUBJECT: KCIA: COMMUNISTS TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON DECEMBER 27

REF: TOKYO 18548

SUMMARY. COMMUNIST DIETMAN HASHIMOTO AND HIS SECRETARY
NOW PLANNING TO DEPART FOR KCIA INVESTIGATION IN
WASHINGTON ON DECEMBER 27. FONOFF CONSIDERS VISIT
OFFICIAL DIET BUSINESS. RUMOR HAS IT THAT HASHIMOTO
WANTS TO LOOK INTO POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING BUREAU
FOR PARTY NEWSPAPER IN WASHINGTON, AS WELL AS SLEUTH
INTO VARIOUS POSSIBLE KCIA ANGLES. END SUMMARY.

1. DECEMBER 19 MAINICHI SHIMBUN REPORTED THAT JCP DIETMAN
ATSUSHI HASHIMOTO WAS PLANNING TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON
FOR KCIA INVESTIGATION ON DECEMBER 21 AND THAT HE
WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY KOICHI MASUDA, HIS DIET
SECRETARY. ON DECEMBER 20, HOWEVER, MASUDA, IN APPLYING
AT EMBASSY FOR A-2 VISA, INFORMED CONSOFF THEIR DEPARTURE
NOW SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 27 WITH RETURN JANUARY 10.
FONOFF SUPPLIED MASUDA WITH OFFICIAL PASSPORT (GOOD FOR
ONE TRIP) AND NOTE VERBALE TO EMBASSY REQUESTING VISA
ISSUANCE. IN CHECKING WITH FONOFF, EMBOFF WAS TOLD
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FONOFF CONSIDERED HASHIMOTO/MASUDA TRIP TO BE OFFICIAL
DIET BUSINESS, FACT HASHIMOTO NOT BEING SENT BY UPPER
HOUSE LOCKHEED INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE NOTWITHSTANDING.
MASUDA WILL BE GIVEN A-2 (TDY) VISA FOR ONE ENTRY DECEMBER 21.

2. WE HAVE HEARD THROUGH GRAPEVINE THAT ONE REASON HASHI-

MOTO WANTS TO MAKE WASHINGTON VISIT AT THIS TIME, IN ADDITION TO STATED DESIRE TO UNEARTH POSSIBLE JAPAN-KCIA CONNECTION, IS TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF SETTING UP WASHINGTON BUREAU OF AKAHATA, JCP ORGAN. THIS ANGLE TO VISIT IS ONLY RUMOR AT THIS TIME, BUT EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO KNOW OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS THAT MATERIALIZE ON THIS ISSUE.

3. FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, ORIGINAL DECEMBER 16 ASAHI ARTICLEOYHICH ERRONEOUSLY ANOGUNCED FORTHCOMING WASHINGTON VISITSUBY CGP AND JSP DIEZMEN AS WELL AS HASHIMOTO, SAID THAT DIETMEN WERE ABOUT TO INVESTIGATE FOLLOWING PARTICULAR POINTS:

STATEMENTS BY KCIA "DEFECTOR" KIM SANG KEUN;

B) US ECONOMIC AID TO ROK;;

C) POSSIBLE LINKS OF KCIA ACTIVITIES IN US, ROK AND JAPAN;

D) RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN KCIA AND JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN AND POLITICIANS; AND

E) SUSPICIONS RE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR SEOUL SUBWAY.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, INVESTIGATIONS, INTELLIGENCE PERSONNEL, VISA EXTENSIONS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TOKYO18600
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760466-0620
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761226/aaaaawtc.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TOKYO 18548
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KCIA: COMMUNISTS TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON DECEMBER 27
TAGS: PINT, JA, US, KCIA, (HASHIMOTO, DIETMAN ATSUSHI)
To: SECSTATE WASHDC SEOUL
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006